



# KANSAS DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW NEWSLETTER

**Published by Health Information Designs, Inc.**

**Summer 2010**

Welcome to the summer 2010 edition of the "Kansas Drug Utilization Review Newsletter," published by Health Information Designs, Inc. (HID). This newsletter is part of a continuing effort to keep the Medicaid provider community informed of important changes in the Kansas Medical Assistance Program (KMAP).

KMAP Phone Numbers	KMAP Self-Service Options	In This Issue:
<b>Provider Customer Service:</b> 1-800-933-6593 Call center agents focus on inquiries which cannot be answered through the self-service options.	<b>KMAP Web site:</b> <a href="https://www.kmap-state-ks.us/">https://www.kmap-state-ks.us/</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligibility verification</li> <li>• Managed care assignment</li> <li>• Claims status</li> <li>• Payment information</li> <li>• Code coverage information</li> <li>• Prior authorization requirements</li> <li>• Training material downloads</li> </ul>	<b>Proper Storage of Antibiotics</b>
<b>Prior Authorization Help Desk:</b> 1-800-285-4978		<b>Head Lice</b>
<b>Beneficiary Customer Service:</b> 1-800-766-9012		<b>Preferred Drug List</b>
<b>Pharmacy Help Desk:</b> 1-866-405-5200 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharmacy Claims</li> <li>• ProDUR</li> </ul>	<b>AVRS (Automated Voice Response System):</b> 1-800-933-6593	

## Proper Storage of Antibiotics

Proper storage and administration of medications is a serious issue, especially with antibiotics that can vary greatly from one agent to another. The following table summarizes some of the most common antibiotic suspensions and how to store and administer them:

Brand Name	Generic Name	Type of Antibiotic	Expiration	Storage (Refrigeration or Room Temperature)	Administration Instructions & Other Cautions
Amoxil®	Amoxicillin	Penicillin	14 Days	Either <sup>1</sup>	May be taken with or without food.
Augmentin®	Amoxicillin/Clavulanate	Penicillin	10 Days	Refrigerate	Take with food. Storage at room temperature for 4 hours or more may decrease potency.
Biaxin®	Clarithromycin	Macrolide	14 Days	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	May be taken without regards to meals. Follow each dose with water or food to rinse mouth. May become bitter tasting if stored in the refrigerator.
Cipro®	Ciprofloxacin	Fluoroquinolone	14 Days	Either <sup>1</sup>	Preferred dosing is 2 hours after a meal. Drinking extra fluids is recommended. Avoid Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Al <sup>3+</sup> , Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Zn <sup>2+</sup> , or Fe <sup>2+</sup> 2 hours before or after dose.
Cleocin®	Clindamycin	Lincomycin	14 Days	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	Take with food.
Diflucan®	Fluconazole	Azole Antifungal	14 Days	Either <sup>1</sup>	May be taken with or without food.
E.E.S.®	Erythromycin	Macrolide	10 Days <sup>3</sup>	Room Temperature <sup>2,3</sup>	May be taken with or without food.
Keflex®	Cephalexin	Cephalosporin	14 Days	Refrigerate	May be taken with or without food. Medication expires after 1 day if stored at room temperature.
Levaquin®	Levofloxacin	Quinolone	N/A <sup>3</sup>	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	Take on an empty stomach. Drinking extra fluids is recommended. Avoid Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Al <sup>3+</sup> , Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Zn <sup>2+</sup> , or Fe <sup>2+</sup> 2 hours before or after dose.
Omnicef®	Cefdinir	Cephalosporin	10 Days	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	May be taken with or without food. Avoid Al <sup>3+</sup> and Mg <sup>2+</sup> within 1 hour before or 2 hours after dose.
Pen VK®	Penicillin	Penicillin	14 Days	Refrigerate	Take on an empty stomach. No specific data for storage at room temperature, may be good for up to 5 days.
Septra®	Sulfamethoxazole/Trimethoprim	Sulfonamide	N/A <sup>3</sup>	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	May be taken with or without food. Take with a full glass of water and increase water intake.
Vibramycin®	Doxycycline	Tetracycline	14 days	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	May be taken with or without food. Take with a full glass of water. Do not lie down for 30 minutes after dose. Do not take Al <sup>3+</sup> , Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Fe <sup>2+</sup> , bismuth subsalicylate, or sucralose within 1-2 hours before or 2-3 hours after dose.
Zithromax®	Azithromycin	Macrolide	10 Days	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	May be taken with or without food. Do not take 1 hour before or 2 hours after taking Mg <sup>2+</sup> or Al <sup>3+</sup> .
Zyvox®	Linezolid	Oxazolidinone	21 Days	Room Temperature <sup>2</sup>	May be taken with or without food.

<sup>1</sup>Placing medication in refrigerator may improve palatability.

<sup>2</sup>Storage in refrigerator may thicken the medication and make it difficult to pour an accurate dose.

<sup>3</sup>Consult the package insert for specific product details.

## Head Lice

With the beginning of the school year nearing, this is the season when head lice infestations become more common. Head lice are the most prevalent parasitic infection of human beings in the United States and affect as many as six million to 12 million children and adults worldwide each year. Approximately \$367 million is spent annually in the United States on over-the-counter (OTC) pediculicides and associated products/services accrued by school systems. Children between the ages of four and 11 have the highest prevalence of head lice infestation. Contracting head lice is not related to the cleanliness of the person infested or their environment. Because girls have a tendency to play in small groups with close head-to-head contact more often than boys, they tend to have a higher incidence of infection.

### Symptoms and Transmission

Many cases of head lice infestation are asymptomatic. Symptoms that may be noted include itching, a tickling feeling in the hair, and scalp irritation. Complications rarely develop, but they may include secondary bacterial infections such as impetigo. Head lice are transferred mainly by direct head-to-head contact with an infested individual. The other method of head lice transmission is via fomite transmission, which occurs when people share infested clothing, combs and brushes, or lie on a bed, couch, pillow, carpet, or stuffed animal that has recently been in contact with an infested person.

### Non-Pharmacologic Treatment

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) makes the following recommendations for treating households of infested persons:

- Use the hot water cycle (130° F) on the washing machine to clean all washable clothing and bed linens touched by the infested person in the two-day period before treatment began.
- Use the hot cycle of the dryer for at least 20 minutes on all washable items.
- Dry clean items that cannot be washed. Items that cannot be washed or dry cleaned, such as stuffed animals or comforters, should be sealed and stored in a plastic bag for two weeks.
- Vacuum the floor and furniture of the infested individual's household instead of spraying with fumigant sprays, which can be toxic.
- Soak combs and brushes that have been used by infested individual in rubbing alcohol or Lysol for one hour or wash in hot, soapy water.
- Household contacts' scalp, hair, and neck should still be inspected for lice and nits every two or three days, even if the recommended measures for clearing the household of infested individuals are implemented.
- Treat household members only if lice or nits are found. Prophylactic treatment is not recommended.
- Children less than two years of age who are infested should be treated with mechanical removal of lice and nits rather than with pediculicides. If mechanical removal fails contact physician.
- Avoid use of conditioners before applying a pediculicide, as conditioners coat hair and may protect the lice.

### Pharmacologic Treatment

There are pharmacological treatments available both over-the-counter and by prescription. They include two mechanisms to remove lice: pediculicidal agents to kill live lice, and ovicidal agents to kill lice eggs. The most crucial factor in effective treatment of head lice infestation is ensuring that the infestation is thoroughly treated with pharmacological and non-pharmacological methods to prevent reinfestation. It is imperative that patients receive adequate and correct information in order to most effectively eradicate head lice and prevent reinfestation. The following table summarizes the various pharmacologic treatments:

Brand Example	Active Ingredient	Rx Status	Avg Price/Treatment	Age Limits	Pediculicidal	Ovicidal	Retreatment Recommendations	Drug Information
Rid®	Pyrethrins/ Piperonyl Butoxide	OTC	\$4	≥ 2 years old	Yes	No	9-10 days after treatment	Pyrethrins are naturally occurring extracts from the chrysanthemum flower.
Nix®	Permethrin	OTC	\$13	≥ 2 years old	Yes	No	9-10 days after treatment	Permethrin may continue to kill live lice several days after treatment.
Lindane	Lindane	Rx	\$119	Weight based, 110 lbs	Yes	Yes	Do NOT retreat	Not recommended as first-line treatment. Package instructions must be followed closely, lindane is neurotoxic. Its use should be limited to patients as described in the package insert to decrease the risk of neurotoxicity.
Ovide®	Malathion	Rx	\$128	≥ 6 years old	Yes	Partially	7-9 days after treatment if live lice are still present	Flammable; do not smoke or use electrical heat sources, including hair dryers, etc. when applying malathion lotion and while the hair is wet.
Ulesfia®	Benzyl Alcohol	Rx	\$50-\$300	≥ 6 months	Yes	No	7 days after treatment	Avoid eye exposure, may cause eye irritation. Number of bottles per treatment varies based upon hair length.

[http://www.khpa.ks.gov/pharmacy/pharmacy\\_druglist.html](http://www.khpa.ks.gov/pharmacy/pharmacy_druglist.html)

This list was updated on **08/01/10**. Please visit the KHPA Web site for the most current version.



Health Information Designs, Inc. (HID) provides drug utilization review and pharmacy support services. We specialize in helping our clients promote clinically-appropriate and cost effective prescribing, dispensing, and utilization of prescription drugs.

For 33 years, HID has worked to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of healthcare through the clinically-rational use of prescription medication. Our clients include public and private healthcare plans throughout the U.S., with a combined total of over 14 million covered lives.

Health Information Designs, Inc. was founded in 1976 and is incorporated as a C Corporation in the State of Delaware. HID's initial mission was to market drug utilization review (DUR) services nationally and since its founding, has provided DUR services for clients in approximately one-half of the United States. HID is headquartered in Auburn, Alabama, with regional offices in Arkansas, Maryland, and Mississippi.

**Health Information Designs, Inc.**

391 Industry Drive  
Auburn, AL 36832  
[www.hidinc.com](http://www.hidinc.com)

PRST STD  
U.S. Post-  
age

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5